#### 

JS 44 (Rev. 04/21)

# **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS  LEHIGH VALLEY 1 LLC		DEFENDANTS WHITEHAI	DEFENDANTS WHITEHALL FIDUCIARY LLC, AS TRUSTEE OF		
				TED AUGUST 1, 2007	
(b) County of Residence of	of First Listed Plaintiff Florida	County of Residence	of First Listed Defendant		
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		NOTE: IN LAND CO THE TRACT	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.		
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Number)	Attorneys (If Known)			
	Berger Law Group, PC - 610-668	3-0800			
	g 3, STE 114, Bryn Mawr, PA				
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF PI (For Diversity Cases Only)	a	and One Box for Defendant)	
U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	_	FF DEF  1 Incorporated or Pr  of Business In T		
2 U.S. Government Defendant	■ 4 Diversity     (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 Incorporated and F of Business In A		
		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country		6 6	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only) TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	Click here for: Nature of S  BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgmen 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise  REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation  ▼ 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Personal Injury Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaccutical	2Y 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 690 Other  RTY LABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Management Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act 6  IMMIGRATION 462 Naturalization Application	422 Appeal 28 USC 158 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157  INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS  820 Copyrights 830 Patent 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application 840 Trademark 880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016  SOCIAL SECURITY  861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g))  FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	375 False Claims Act 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit (15 USC 1681 or 1692) 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
	448 Education 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement 555 Prison Conditions of Confinement 555 Prison Conditions of Confinement 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement 560 Civil Detainee - Condition 560 Civil Detai	4 Reinstated or 5 Transfe	erred from 6 Multidistr	- Litigation -	
The state of the s	****	(specify		Direct File	
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	Brief description of cause:				
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	Mortgage foreclosure for the real property loca  CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTIO UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.	TO POR ALL DITTO D	CHECK YES only	if demanded in complaint:	
VIII. RELATED CAS	E(S)  (See instructions):  JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE	SIGNATURE OF AT	TORNEY OF RECORD			
June 14, 2024	/s/ Phillip D. Berger	r, PA ID. 58942			
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY				DOE	
RECEIPT# A	MOUNT APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JU	DGE	

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

#### DESIGNATION FORM

(to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate calendar)

Address of Plaintiff:	2100 Ponce de Leon Blvd, Suite 720, Coral	Gables, Florida 33134			
Address of Defendant:	1177 6th Street, Whitehall, PA 18052				
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction:  Whitehall, PA 18052					
RELATED CASE IF A	ANY:Judge:	Date Terminated			
	related when Yes is answered to any of the followin				
<ol> <li>Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?</li> <li>Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit Pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?</li> <li>Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier Numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action of this court?</li> <li>Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se case filed by the same individual?</li> </ol>					
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is / is not related to any now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as note above.					
DATE: 6/14/24	/s/ Phillip D. Berger, Esq.	58942			
	Attorney-at-Law (Must sign above)	Attorney I.D. # (if applicable)			
2. FELA   3. Jones Act-   4. Antitrust   5. Wage and   6. Patent   7. Copyright/   8. Employme   9. Labor-Mai   10. Civil Righ   11. Habeas Co   12. Securities   13. Social Sec   14. Qui Tam C	Cases:  Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts)  Personal Injury  Hour Class Action/Collective Action  Trademark ent nagement Relations ts prous Cases urity Review Cases	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:  1. Insurance Contract and Other Contracts 2. Airplane Personal Injury 3. Assault, Defamation 4. Marine Personal Injury 5. Motor Vehicle Personal Injury 6. Other Personal Injury (Please specify): 7. Products Liability 8. All Other Diversity Cases: (Please specify)  Real Property - Mortgage Foreclosure			
	ARBITRATION CERTI				
X Pursuar case ex	ceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and coson other than monetary damages is sought.  /s/ Phillip D. Berg	c hereby certify:  knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action ts:  er, Esq. 58942			
DAID. WITHE	Attorney-at-Law (Sign here if				
NOTE: A trial de novo will be a jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.					

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

LEHIGH VALLEY 1 LLC, successor by assignment to WINDSTREAM CAPITAL LLC, successor by assignment to the UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, successor by assignment to M&T REALTY CAPITAL CORPORATION

2100 Ponce de Leon Blvd, Suite 720 Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Plaintiff,

v.

WHITEHALL FIDUCIARY LLC, AS TRUSTEE OF WHITEHALL TRUST U/T/A DATED AUGUST 1, 2007

1177 N. Sixth Street Whitehall, PA 18052,

Defendant.

**CIVIL ACTION** 

NO.

# COMPLAINT IN MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

Plaintiff Lehigh Valley 1 LLC, successor by assignment to Windstream Capital LLC, successor by assignment to the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, successor by assignment to M&T Realty Capital Corporation ("LV1 LLC"), by and through its undersigned counsel, files this Complaint in Mortgage Foreclosure against Defendant Whitehall Fiduciary LLC, as Trustee of Whitehall Trust u/t/a Dated August 1, 2007 ("Whitehall"), and avers as follows:

# I. PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. Plaintiff LV1 LLC is a Delaware registered limited liability company with a place of business at 2100 Ponce de Leon Blvd, Suite 720, Coral Gables, FL 33134.

- 2. Defendant Whitehall Fiduciary LLC, as Trustee of Whitehall Trust u/t/a Dated August 1, 2007 ("Whitehall") is upon information and belief a Pennsylvania trust with a last known place of business at 1177 N. Sixth Street, Whitehall, PA 18052.
- 3. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332, as there is complete diversity of citizenship between the parties and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.
- 4. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a)(2), as the real property that is the subject of this action is situated in this district.

### II. FACTS

#### a. The Loan Transaction

- 5. On or about January 26, 2012, M&T Realty Capital Corporation ("M&T") provided a loan in the principal sum of \$15,788,700.00 (the "Loan") to Defendant Whitehall in accordance with the terms and conditions of that certain mortgage note dated January 26, 2012 (the "Note"). A true and correct copy of the original Note is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "A".
- 6. The Note was secured by, *inter alia*, a mortgage dated January 26, 2012 (the "Mortgage") on the real property located at 1177 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Whitehall, PA 18052 (the "Property").

  A true and correct copy of the Mortgage is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "B".
- 7. Defendant Whitehall is the real owner of the land and improvements subject to the Mortgage. A true and correct copy of the legal description of the Property is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "C".
- 8. The Mortgage was recorded in the Lehigh County Recorder of Deeds office on January 26, 2012 at Instrument No. 2012002759, et seq.

### b. The Assignments of the Loan

- 9. The Note was assigned by M&T to the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") pursuant to that certain Allonge to Mortgage Note dated November 8, 2022, effective as of November 16, 2022 (the "HUD Allonge"). A true and correct copy of the HUD Allonge is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "D".
- 10. The Note was then assigned by HUD to Windstream Capital LLC pursuant to that certain Note Endorsement dated September 20, 2023 (the "Windstream Allonge"). A true and correct copy of the Windstream Allonge is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "E".
- 11. The Note was then assigned by Windstream Capital LLC to Plaintiff LV1 LLC pursuant to that certain Allonge to Mortgage Note dated May 15, 2024 (the "LV1 Allonge"). A true and correct copy of the LV1 Allonge is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "F".
- 12. The Mortgage was assigned by M&T to HUD pursuant to that certain Assignment of Mortgage dated November 8, 2022, effective as of November 16, 2022 (the "HUD Assignment"), which HUD Assignment was recorded by the Lehigh County Recorder of Deeds office on November 16, 2022 at Instrument No. 2022038363, et seq. A true and correct copy of the HUD Assignment is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "G".
- 13. The Mortgage was then assigned by HUD to Windstream pursuant to that certain Assignment of Mortgage dated September 20, 2023 (the "Windstream Assignment"), which Windstream Assignment was recorded by the Lehigh County Recorder of Deeds office on October 30, 2023 at Instrument No. 2023025934, *et seq*. A true and correct copy of the Windstream Assignment is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "H".
- 14. The Mortgage was then assigned by Windstream Capital to Plaintiff LV1 LLC pursuant to that certain Assignment of Mortgage dated May 15, 2024 (the "LV1 Assignment"),

which Windstream Assignment was recorded by the Lehigh County Recorder of Deeds office on June 10, 2024, at Instrument No. 2024012857, *et seq*. A true and correct copy of the LV1 Assignment is attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "I".

15. Plaintiff LV1 LLC is the current holder of the Note and Mortgage by virtue of the above cited allonges and assignments.

# c. Defendant's Default of Its Obligations

- 16. The Note and Mortgage required Defendant Whitehall to repay to M&T (now Plaintiff LV1 LLC by assignment) the principal balance and interest due in accordance with the terms set forth therein.
  - 17. Specifically, the Note required the Defendant to make the following payments:

Interest only payable on the first day of February, 2012. Commencing on the first day of March, 2012, monthly installments of interest and principal shall be paid in the sum of Sixty-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-Four and 95/100 Dollars (\$69,844.95) each, such payments to continue monthly thereafter on the first day of each succeeding month until the entire indebtedness has been paid in full. In any event, the balance of the principal (if any) remaining unpaid, plus accrued interest, shall be due and payable on February 1, 2042. The installments of interest and principal shall be applied first to interest at the rate of three and thirty-eight hundredths per centum (3.38%) per annum upon the principal sum or so much thereof as shall from time to time remain unpaid and the balance thereof shall be applied on account of principal.

[Note, Exh. "A" at p. 1].

- 18. Further, the Note states that: "If default be made in the payment of any installment under this Note, and if such default is not made good prior to the due date of the next such installment, the entire principal sum and accrued interest shall at once become due and payable without notice, at the option of the holder of this Note." [id., at p. 2].
  - 19. Additionally, the Mortgage provides that:

It is also expressly agreed that if the Mortgagor should fail to pay any installment of principal and interest or payment due pursuant to covenant one above within thirty (30) days

after the due date of such installment or payment, or if the Mortgagor should fail to perform any of the terms, conditions or covenants of the mortgage, the note, the building loan agreement, or the regulatory agreement, such failure shall constitute a default and in every such case, the whole principal debt shall, at the option of the Mortgagee, become due and payable immediately, and it shall and may be lawful for said Mortgagee forthwith to bring an Action of Mortgage Foreclosure, to sue out of a Writ of Scire Facias, or to institute other foreclosure proceedings upon this mortgage, and to proceed to judgment and execution for recovery of said principal debt, all interest thereon, all sums advanced for payment of any ground rent, taxes, water rents, charges, claims or insurance premiums as aforesaid, and all other recoverable sums, together with an attorney's commission for collection, without further stay of execution or other process, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

[Mortgage, Exh. "B", p. 7].

- 20. Defendant Whitehall is in default of the Note and the Mortgage due to its failure to make the required payments of principal and interest as and when due thereon.
- 21. Defendant has failed and refused to make monthly payments on account of the Loan, with the last payment directly and voluntarily made by the Defendant on February 5, 2021.
- 22. Further, the Defendant's reserve account was subsequently offset by HUD when \$813,690.94 was applied to the delinquent March, April and May 2021 monthly payments and to delinquent real estate taxes, causing the reserve account to then be depleted.
- 23. The Defendant has not replenished the reserve account, nor made any further monthly payment on the Mortgage.
- 24. Accordingly, the Loan was \$1,727,249.73 past due as of July 2023, which was when the Loan was purchased by Windstream Capital LLC.
- 25. Due to Defendant's defaults, this Loan was accelerated and demand was made for the immediate payment of all amounts due and owing in full. A true and correct copy of the demand letter indicating same is attached hereto as Exhibit "J".

- 26. Notwithstanding the demand, Defendant has continued to fail and refuse to make a single monthly payment of \$69,844.95 due since July 2023, when the Loan was sold to Windstream Capital, LLC, and there is a current past due amount of over \$2.4 million.
  - 27. Accordingly, Plaintiff LV1 LLC brings this action to foreclose the Mortgage.
- 28. Notice pursuant to Act 6, 41 P.S. §101, et seq. was not required as the original principal balance of the Loan exceeds the statutory threshold.
- 29. Notice pursuant to the Homeowner's Emergency Mortgage Assistance Act of 1983, 35 P.S. § 1680.401(c) et seq., as amended, was not required as the Property is not the principal residence of the Defendant.
- 30. As a consequence of the above-described events of default, the amount due to Plaintiff LV1 LLC under the Note and the Mortgage is as follows:

Original Principal Balance	\$15,788,700.00
Unpaid Principal Balance	\$12,487,669.04
Interest as of 6/7/24	1,329,562.12
Taxes and Insurance	(72,073.34)
Late Charges	50,288.40
Other Charges	500.00
Attorney's Fees as of 6/7/24	36,404.46
Total:	\$13,832,350.68

Interest continues to accrue on the balance at the rate of \$1,172.45 per diem.

- 31. No prior judgment has been entered on said Note or Mortgage in any jurisdiction.
- 32. Plaintiff has satisfied all conditions precedent to the commencement of this action.

## **COUNT I – MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE**

- 33. Paragraphs 1 through 32 of this Complaint are incorporated herein by reference.
- 34. Defendant executed the Note, which is secured by the Mortgage, in favor of Plaintiff.

- 36. Plaintiff LV1 LLC is authorized by Mortgage and by Pennsylvania law to foreclose the Mortgage due to the Defendant's default.
- 37. There is currently due and owing on the Loan the sum of \$13,832,350.68, together with accrued and accruing interest, default interest, fees, charges and costs recoverable under the Loan Documents.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Lehigh Valley 1 LLC, successor by assignment to Windstream Capital LLC, successor by assignment to the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, successor by assignment to M&T Realty Capital Corporation hereby demands judgment in mortgage foreclosure on the property located at 1177 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Whitehall, PA 18052, in its favor and against Defendant Whitehall Fiduciary LLC, as Trustee of Whitehall Trust u/t/a Dated August 1, 2007, and judgment in the amount of \$13,832,350.68, together with all costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, and interest accrued through the date of judgment, and for foreclosure and sale of said Property.

BERGER LAW GROUP, P.C.

Phillip D. Berger
PHILLIP D. BERGER, ESQUIRE
919 Conestoga Road, Building 3, Suite 114
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
(610) 668-0800
Berger@BergerLawPC.com
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Dated: 6/14/24